



Attorney's Docket No.: E00378.70942/JNA/DPM

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: George Varghese et al
Serial No: 09/411,773
Filed: October 4, 1999
For: VIRTUAL LANS
Confirmation No.: 8788
Examiner: Logsdon, Joseph B.
Art Unit: 2662

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ORIGINALLY FILED

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Signature

Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith are the following document(s):

- ☒ Amendment
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard
- ☒ Marked-Up Claims

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Technology Center 2600

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at (617) 720-3500, Boston, Massachusetts.

No fee is enclosed. If a fee is necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50/1127. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
George Varghese et al., Applicants



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Attorney Docket No. E00378.70942
Date: September 6, 2002
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Robyn Reese
Signature

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT

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Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 30, 2002 please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please amend claims 21, 22, 25, 27, 30, 32, 36, 37 and 40 to read as follows:

21. A method of operating a network bridge having a first plurality of ports through which network communications pass to and from the bridge, the method comprising:

assigning a group identifier to each port of the first plurality of ports, wherein all ports with a same assigned group identifier are in a same group;

receiving a communication on a first port of the bridge; and

if the first port is one of the first plurality of ports and the communication is a multicast packet having a multicast destination address, sending the communication out of the bridge on all other ports of the first plurality of ports having the same assigned group identifier as the first port.

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